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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/633,620	08/05/2003	Tokunori Kato	116786	5371
25944 7590 06/30/2008 OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 320850 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320-4850				
EXAMINER				
NGUYEN, QUYNH H				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2614				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/30/2008		PAPER		

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

### Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/633,620

**Applicant(s)**

KATO ET AL.

**Examiner**

QUYNH H. NGUYEN

**Art Unit**

2614

**Period for Reply** -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE and amendment filed 4/18/08.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-6, and 8-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

#### ***Response to Amendment***

2. Applicant's RCE and amendment filed 4/18/08 has been entered. Claims 1-3, 5-6, and 8-9 have been amended. Claims 7 and 10 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-3, 5-6, and 8-9 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-10 being independent.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. Claims 1-3 and 5-6, and 8-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kimball (US Patent 5,953,322) in views of Zhang et al. (US Patent 5,953,407).

As to claims 1 and 8, Kimball teaches the steps of:

A Network Control Unit (NCU) (Fig. 1, communications network 100) capable of inputting/outputting audio signals through the telephone line network (Fig. 1);

an audio input/output path provided beside the NCU and capable of inputting/outputting audio signals from/to an outside source through an outside source through an Internet network (col. 5, lines 21-30);

a switch device for switching an output destination of audio signals based on audio input from the transmitter/receiver and an input source of audio signals to be output as audio from the transmitter/receiver from the NCU to the audio input/output path according to user's operation (col. 3, line 60 through col. 4, line 4; col. 5, lines 10-20).

Kimball does not teach a telephone call notification device for notifying reception of an incoming call from the telephone line network when the incoming call from the telephone line network is received in the state in which the output destination and the input source of audio signals have been switched to the audio input/output path by the switch device.

Zhang et al. teaches a telephone call notification device for notifying reception of an incoming call from the telephone line network when the incoming call from the telephone line network is received (col. 4, lines 1-10). Please note that even though Kimball discloses a variety of telephony devices coupled to a PBX, each of the individual devices includes audio input/output path, switch device (col. 5, lines 16-20). All of the telephony devices do not have to be in used at the same time. Hence, the combination of Kimball and Zhang reads on Applicant's "single telephone terminal".

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Zhang into the teachings of Kimball for the purpose of alerting a telephone subscriber that a call is coming so that the subscriber would decide whether or not to answer the telephone call.

As to claims 2 and 6, Zhang et al. teaches the single telephone notification device makes audio indicating that an incoming call has been received from the telephone line network (col. 4, lines 1-10 - *where Zhang discussed a call waiting tone alerting the user*).

Claim 3 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Kimball teaches an Internet terminal (Fig. 1, cellular telephone 10) with an Internet call function allowing input/output of audio signals transmitted through an Internet network; and a terminal device connected to the Internet terminal through an audio transmission path for transmitting audio signals, wherein the Internet terminal makes the terminal device output audio based on audio signals to perform a voice call (col. 3, line 12 through col. 4, line 37).

Claim 5 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 3. Furthermore, Kimball teaches an Internet terminal (Fig. 1, cellular telephone 10) and a telephone terminal (Fig. 1, telephones 80, 82).

Claim 9 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, Kimball teaches an Internet terminal (Fig. 1, cellular telephone 10).

### ***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments filed 4/18/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's arguments are addressed in the above claims rejection.

Applicant mainly argues that Kimball teaches multiple devices while Applicant's claims recite one telephone terminal. Examiner respectfully submits that even though Kimball discloses a variety of telephony devices coupled to a PBX, each of the individual device includes audio input/output path, switch device (col. 5, lines 16-20). All of the telephony devices do not have to be in used at the same time. Hence, the combination of Kimball and Zhang reads on Applicant's "single telephone terminal". Again, having multiple telephone terminals vs. having one telephone terminal that includes the same claims feature and without departing from the teachings of the prior art do not rise to the level of patentability.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to QUYNH H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is 571-272-7489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Quynh H Nguyen/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614